MCO Newsletter

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PHASE II OF MCO DRIVE LAGS

MORE GIFTS, WORKERS NEEDED

Phase II of MCO's $675,000 building drive "has failed to gain momentum and urgently needs help," co-chairman Dewey Clason and Irving A. Fradkin warned.

Despite the success of Phase I, only $10,000 has been pledged during the current phase which officially began June 1. Drs. Fradkin and Clason called for additional workers and "many more gifts of $1,000 or more to put our drive over the top."

About 1,000 alumni who have not given to the drive were urged to do so as soon as possible. The co-chairmen called for more concern about the plight of the college.

Goal of the drive's final phase is $300,000. This would permit MCO to pay off the mortgage on its main campus at 424 Beacon Street.

Having the present facilities paid for would mean the college could put more of its financial resources into improving the quality of its educational programs. MCO has pioneered in this field through such programs as the 2-year O. D. course for students who already have Ph.D. degrees.

Major cutbacks in federal funding make it urgent for alumni and friends to support the building drive, said Dr. William R. Baldwin, MCO Presiuent. He said that the college's own resources were being "taxed to the limit."

To date, there have been 18 gifts made to Phase II, Dr. Baldwin said, leaving a balance of $290,000 to be raised.

Dr. Baldwin called upon those who already have made pledges to pay them according to schedule. "I am confident that alumni and friends will help us through this difficult phase in maintaining a solid financial base," Dr. Baldwin said. "Organized optometry is doing all it can to see that more federal funding is forthcoming, and some student aid funds already have been restored. However, the situation remains serious for the college and for those students who look to us for a chance to become competent optometrists."

72 IN CLASS OF '78

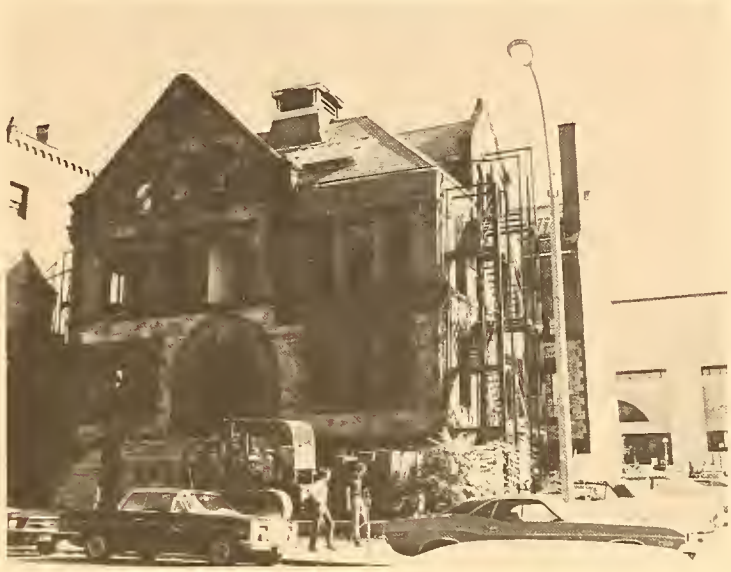
One of the largest and most diverse groups of MCO first-year students began its preparation for the O.D. degree in September.

Continuing the trend of recent years, the 72 students reflect an ongoing growth in quality of preparation. Fifty-four students have B.A. or B.S. degrees; eight also have master's degrees and one has a Ph.D.

Students also reflect a wide geographic spread, with 16 states--from Maine to Georgia, from California to Maryland--represented. One student is from Hong Kong, and one from Canada.

The newcomers met with members of the faculty and administrative staff at a reception held Sept. 6. Representatives of the MCO Dames Club were on hand to greet wives and fiancees of the incoming student group.

NEWBURY STREET BUILDING TO BE RAZED



Demolition work begins at 178 Newbury Street

Late in September, the able crew of a demolition contractor began to systematically tear down the MCO building at 178 Newbury Street. The four-story building housed MCO from 1948 until 1971, when the present Beacon Street property was purchased.

John Beradi, the demolition contractor in charge of razing the building, said, "It wasn't worth saving. There are internal structural fractures, and the plumbing's all shot."

Demolition brought with it a flood of fond memories expressed by alumni and faculty alike. The building, named for Horace Mann, was purchased from Boston University. An often-repeated rumor is that Alexander Graham Bell conducted some of his early experiments there.

Dr. Frank Kozol recalled that the three-foot-thick stone walls required special tools to install a security system. "There are at least a few secret passages," he said. Fraternities used the passages for initiation ceremonies.

Dr. Kozol also recalled someone borrowing a skeleton from the Anatomy Lab, setting it up in one of the passages and sending a wide-eyed freshman down on an errand. "The screams were horrendous," he said.

The building served primarily serious purposes, however. Twenty-one classes of optometrists were graduated there. And within its walls MCO took many of the definitive steps which led to its present position as an acknowledged leader in the field of optometric education.

MCO Campaign '73

MCO PROFESSOR HELPS DEVELOP LASER SAFETY STANDARDS FOR INDUSTRY

MCO Prof. Paul Lappin represented the American Optometric Association in developing safety standards for use of potentially-dangerous laser beams by U. S. industry.

Dr. Lappin was chosen to be a member of the American National Standards Institute Z.136 committee that recently published its report on laser safety. He described the increased use of lasers as "extraordinary, particularly during the last four or five years."

Dr. Lappin said that the human eye is perhaps the most vulnerable part of the human body to damage from lasers. He said that the retina could be damaged by as little as a hundred-thousandth the amount of energy it takes to cause corneal damage.

Among principal safety measures recommended in the committee report are:

--Enclosing laser devices in light-tight boxes.
--Working in rooms with interlocks that prevent accidental opening of doors.
--Using special goggles that filter out the narrow waveband transmitted by a laser.

"Laser safety represents one of the greatest challenges and opportunities for environmental optometry," Dr. Lappin said. "ODs with a sound background in the physical sciences are well qualified to consider both a laser's characteristics and the ocular physiology involved in implementing safety requirements."

ATTORNEY JOHN CALLAHAN APPOINTED TO MCO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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John M. Callahan, former Assistant U. S. Attorney for Massachusetts, was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees of MCO.

Mr. Callahan, now a practicing attorney in Northampton, Mass., was Assistant U. S. Attorney for the state from 1964 to 1968, and Chief of the Civil Division in the office of the U. S. Attorney from 1967 to 1968. During that time, he was in charge of a trial staff of fourteen assistant U. S. attorneys for all U. S. Justice Department civil litigation in Mass. He handled the trial of all federal condemnation in the state during 1964-1967, including the acquisition of the Cape Cod National Seashore and Minute Man Historical Park.

From 1962 to 1964, Callahan was with the Office of General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, D. C.

A member of the Hampshire County, Boston, Mass. and American Bar Associations, he also belongs to the Mass., U. S. District Court for Mass. and First Circuit Court of Appeals bars.

Callahan has been in private practice in Northampton since 1968. In 1971 he was appointed District Attorney of the Northwestern District of Massachusetts.

He is a member of the Northampton Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce. Married and the father of four children, he makes his home in South Hadley, Mass.

Emergency Loan Fund Grows

Dr. Paul Montminy, MCO alumni president, reports that the Student Emergency Loan Fund has reached $5,000. The fund started during the term of Dr. Glen A. Gulezian, immediate past president.

OPTOMETRISTS URGED TO USE M.C.O. CLINIC SYSTEM

The many clinics in the M.C.O. system provide a broad-spectrum training in clinical practice for our students. They offer eye care to many sectors of the public, some of whom may not otherwise receive eye care. But what does the clinic system offer the practitioner in the community?

The clinic system is a vital supplement of services and equipment for the optometric community. It is a resource, a tool, an extension of the practitioner's office. The clinic policy is to work in conjunction with the referring practitioner. In return, the clinics receive the patients they need to train students. Without the support of the many optometrists, ophthalmologists and organizations who continually refer patients, M.C.O. would not be able to provide its graduates with high-quality clinical education.

Practitioners who refer unique or problem cases to the M.C.O. clinics receive a detailed report of the patient's evaluation.

Referrals can be for a Visually Evoked Responses (VER) evaluation, a low-vision evaluation, an aniseikonic evaluation or a pediatric evaluation.

The General Clinic in Kenmore Square offers complete visual analysis and a variety of supplemental procedures--indirect ophthalmoscopy, gonioscopy, dark adaptometry, exophthalmoscopy, color vision analysis, and Hess screen testing.

Located within the same facility are the Contact Lens, Pathology and Photography Clinics. The Pathology Clinic is staffed by three ophthalmologistsin rotation. Minor ocular conditions are treated at the clinic and more complicated cases are referred to one of the local hospitals, such as University Hospital or Beth Israel.

In certain cases, the Photography Clinic documents a diagnosed condition; the photograph is filed with a patient's record and is used as a teaching aid.

Specialty clinics. The specialty clinics include the Pediatric and Rehabilitative Clinics. Visual Electro-physiology services are available at the specialty clinics. The Pediatric Clinic functions as a vision training and visual developmental clinic. Essential pediatric services provided include developmental and orthoptic evaluation, pleoptics, training programs and inter-professional referrals.

The clinic is equipped with an impressive number of instruments--stereoscopes, vectographs, prism and bar readers, ortho-trainers, photoelectric eye trac, tachistoscopes, TBI's, cheiroscopes, rotoscopes, and synoptoscopes, to name a few.

The Vision Rehabilitation Clinic is a multi-clinic facility consisting of a low vision clinic and an adult binocular anomalies clinic which provides aniseikonia evaluations and treatment with special spectral filters, vision training and prism-incorporated prescription.

The Low Vision Clinic tries to equip the low-vision patient with low-vision devices which will help him function better. A large inventory of aids is available, ranging from hand-held instruments to closed-circuit television reading systems. It is a policy of the clinic to lend some devices to patients for evaluation in their own surroundings. Counseling is offered patients by social workers from the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind.

The specialty clinics are fully equipped with facilities for recording Electroretinograms (ERG) and Visually Evoked Responses (VER).

A brochure is being prepared describing the clinic system and will be available soon.

MCO ACCEPTS NEW GROUP TWO-YEAR O.D. CANDIDATES

MCO has enrolled eleven new two-year O.D. candidates as the pioneer program enters its second year.

Members of the new group already hold doctorates in physics, electrical engineering, physical chemistry, biochemistry, psychology, optics and microbiology.

The candidates began their optometric studies on July 9. Six of the students are from the United States. The others are from Tunisia, Hong Kong, India, Lebanon and Taiwan. Their graduate work was done principally in the United States and Canada.

The accelerated program will graduate its first class in 1974.

DR. SAMUEL FINE APPOINTED TO MCO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. Samuel Fine

Dr. Samuel Fine, chairman of the Department of Biophysics and Biomedical Engineering at Northeastern University, was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees at MCO.

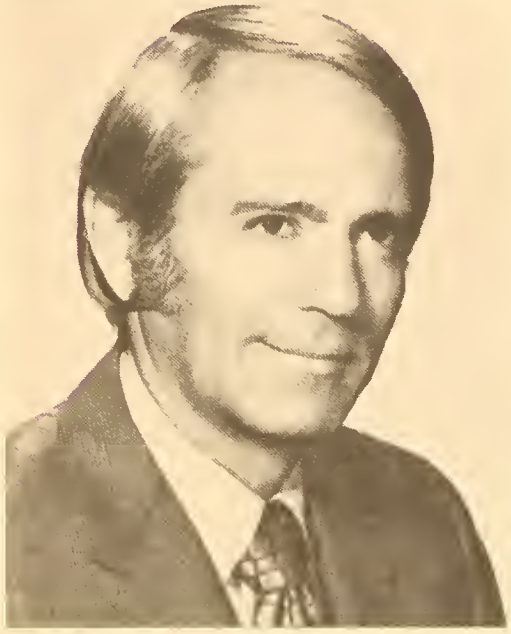
Dr. Fine has a distinguished record in biomedical research, medicine, teaching and administration, and writing. He is the author or co-author of nearly 100 scientific and technical articles. A noted lecturer, Dr. Fine has appeared throughout the nation at government, scientific and university conferences. He is an authority on laser radiation and therapy.

Educated at the University of Toronto and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Fine holds degrees in electrical engineering and in medicine.

He is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the Society of Nuclear Medicine, the Society for Experimental Pathology and the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology. Dr. Fine also is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Boston Medical Physics Group and the Health Physics Society.

Dr. Fine has served on the board of directors of the Industry Association, Biometrics, Inc., Advanced Technology Publications and the IEEE Group on Engineering in Medicine and Biology.

MEMORIAL FUND FOR DR. MARK STARTS



Dr. Marshall V. Mark

Alumni and friends have started a memorial fund for the late and beloved Dr. Marshall V. Mark, who died last June at the age of 52. Dr. Mark had been in ill health for some time.

Dr. E. Albert Glickman announced that contributions to the fund are being received at the college. He also expressed hope that many former students of Dr. Mark will respond to the appeal.

Dr. Mark was an associate professor of optometry at MCO and had served as a faculty member for 13 years. For 18 years he was also a staff member at Boston University School of Medicine.

A favorite with MCO students, Dr. Mark received a special award during commencement exercises last March. He also received an honorary Doctor of Ocular Science degree for his distinguished work as teacher, clinician and research scientist.

A native of Massachusetts, Dr. Mark graduated from MCO in 1942. After discharge from the U. S. Army in 1946, he did postgraduate work at the Columbia University College of Optometry.

Dr. Mark entered private practice in 1951. He also served on the clinical staffs of some of Boston's leading medical institutions, including the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, New England Medical Center and Boston University Hospital.

He was the author of more than 100 scientific papers and has served in major posts with many professional and scientific organizations.

"Through Dr. Mark, I learned a great deal about optometric diagnosis and treatment," said one recent MCO graduate. "But what I remember most is his helpful concern. Dr. Mark was never too busy to listen to a struggling student or lend a helping hand."

Checks for the newly-established fund may be made out to The Massachusetts College of Optometry (Marshall V. Mark Memorial Fund.) A number of projects are under consideration for funding, and this will be a factor in setting an exact goal for the fund.

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DR. BALDWIN ELECTED PRESIDENT A.S.C.O.

MCO President Dr. William R. Baldwin was elected president of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry during their summer meeting in San Francisco.

Dr. Baldwin succeeds Dr. Chester Pfeiffer, Dean at the University of Houston School of Optometry.

ASCO, representing 18 schools of optometry in the United States, Canada and Latin America, is dedicated to improving optometric education and serves as a spokesman for member schools. ASCO recently joined with schools of podiatry and pharmacy in bringing suit against the federal government to release the balance of capitation funds already appropriated by Congress. Only 50% of promised funds have been released. to date, severely hampering current programs. Capitation aid is provided according to the size of student enrollment at a particular college.

In addition to the election of Dr. Baldwin to presidential office, two important decisions favoring optometric education were approved for funding, and a resolution was adopted approving the establishment of a Washington, D.C. office for ASCO.

ASCO, AOA and AOF also agreed in principle to a national fundraising program in support of education and research. AOF chairman Dr. Spurgeon Eure will head the committee representing the three organizations. Dr. Burtt Holmes (MCO Class of '55 and member of the board of trustees) of Worcester will be one of two representatives on the committee from AOA.

Dr. Baldwin became president of MCO in 1969. From 1963 to 1969, he was Dean of the Pacific University College of Optometry in Oregon. Dr. Baldwin received his O.D. degree in 1951 from Pacific University. He received his Ph.D. from Indiana University in 1963.

MCO ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER HELD

Dr. Otto Hochstadt, one of the principal speakers at the recognition dinner.

The annual Recognition Dinner was held at the Colonnade Hotel in Boston. Over one hundrec people attended the gala event, including trustees and members of the corporation of the college, faculty, administrators and students of the college, alumni and representatives of many segments of organized optometry.

Dr. Dewey Clason, past president of the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists and MCO Building Fund co-chairman, reviewed the progress of the Building Fund campaign to date. Dr. William R. Baldwin, president, detailed the financial status of the college for the group. Dr. Richard Baker urged all in attendance to take strong action in supporting the program.

Drs. Robert Duckman and Henry Boroyan (class of '69) presented the college with a check for $3,000 as a contribution fo the College Scholarship Fund. Dr. Baldwin honored Dr. Richard Ferris for his dedicated and devoted service to optometry and the college.

Dr. Carl Jagolinzer was then honored by being presented with a special resolution from the trustees.

FUND RAISING BRIEFS

Century Club

Dr. Irving Fradkin, co-chairman of our building drive, is helping MCO gain support in other ways, too. He is spearheading plans to build toward an eventual $1 million endowment fund through what he calls the "Century Club." Dr. Fradkin is asking annual pledges of $100 or more from donors who already have given to the building drive. The solicitation is not yet in high gear, but $1500 already has been received.

Class of '69 Scholarship Fund

The Class of '69 is setting an example for others to follow by establishing a student scholarship fund. The fund now has reached $3,000. Miss Sandra M. Schwahl, Union City, N.J., a second-year student, is the first scholarship recipient.

Dinner Dance Benefit

Mrs. Alfred Roy of Fall River, President of the Auxiliary to the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists said the Auxiliary-organized Harvest Dinner Dance to benefit MCO was a success. The event was held Saturday, November 10, at the Chateau de Ville in Framingham. More details about the gala event will appear in the next newsletter.

Bequest Group Forming

Drs. Carl Jagolinzer and Richard Ferris soon will meet with MCO officials to plan a campaign for bequests. Many alumni already plan to remember the college in their wills and others are being asked to join them. State chairmen and committees will be chosen.